

Capitol
Washington, D. C.

HABS No. DC 38
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Columbia

Historic American Buildings Survey
Prepared at Washington Office

ADDENDUM
PLANS...

Addendum to
United States Capitol
At the intersection of North Capitol,
South Capitol, and East Capitol
Streets and the Mall
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-38

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE District of Columbia	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY Washington
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) United States Capitol		HABS NO. DC-38
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) At the intersection of North Capitol, East Capitol and South Capitol Streets and the Mall		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1793-1865 (See descriptions of alterations and additions)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) William Thornton, Benjamin H. Latrobe, Charles Bulfinch, Thomas U. Walter	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Symbolic of the nation's political system, it is the country's most important civic structure. Set the precedent for the Classical Revival Style in the public buildings of the new capital.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Classical Revival		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Aquia sandstone and marble with cast-iron dome		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 2 stories on rusticated podium; central and end porticos; central dome		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Extensive use of classical motifs: columns, pilasters, sculpted pediments, pedimented window caps, balustrade at roof		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Construction following Thornton's original design begun in 1793; north wing completed 1800; construction continued under Latrobe 1803-1817 including rebuilding after fire set by British in 1812; original low-domed building completed by Bulfinch 1819-1829; House and Senate wings and cast-iron dome added by Walter 1851-1865; east front extended 1959 by J. George Stewart.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Western terrace added and grounds landscaped by Frederick Law Olmsted 1875-1892		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Schwartz, Nancy B. Historic American Buildings Survey District of Columbia Catalog, 1974. A National Historic Landmark A Category I District of Columbia Landmark		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Druscilla J. Null, HABS		DATE 8/23/83

ADDENDUM TO

HABS No. DC-38

UNITED STATES CAPITOL

Intersection of North, South, and East Capitol Streets

Washington

District of Columbia

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013